

# The West Virginian

"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME"

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W. J. WISGILL, General Manager.  
JAMES C. HENNING, Editor.  
A. RAY MAPEL, Advertising Manager.  
CHARLES V. MEDIC, Circulation Manager.

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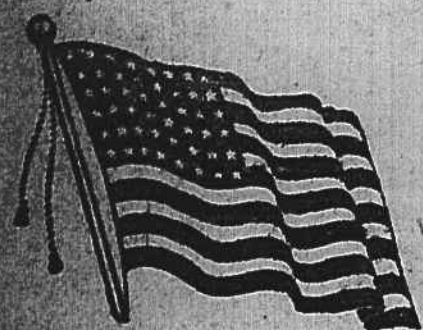
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FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 31, 1919.



## THE AMERICAN CREED.

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic, a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable, established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes. I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag; and to defend it against all enemies.

## HOW ABOUT THIS?

CITIZEN'S inquiries in a letter to the editor of The West Virginian, which was printed yesterday, were most timely and we are glad to note that in the same issue of the paper there is a news item saying that at the meeting of the Memorial committee which is scheduled to be held tomorrow something will be done in the way of getting the movement started.

As for the second question raised by our correspondent, that in which inquiry is made regarding the possibility of something being done for the men who are returning to their homes in Marion county after service in the army and navy, it seems to us that the County Council of Defense ought to do something.

Anticipating this precise emergency, Governor Cornwell in a letter written early this month asked the Defense Councils of the several counties of the state to remain intact and take up the activities our correspondent mentions.

So far there has been no sign that the Marion county Defense body has ever heard of such a thing, but if it does not act soon steps will have to be taken to take the matter out of its hands. The West Virginia troops are beginning to arrive from France, and soon they will be returning here in considerable bodies. Are we going to let them come back without any public acknowledgement of the debt we owe them?

## PRESIDENT ALEXANDER.

ATTORNEY GEORGE M. ALEXANDER, who was yesterday chosen to fill the vacancy in the organization of the Monongahela Valley Traction company created by the retirement of S. L. Watson from the position of chairman of the board of directors and the promotion of President J. O. Watson to that post, has long been one of the strongest factors in the development of the corporation.

As head of the legal department during the period in which the system witnessed its most important development Mr. Alexander became familiar with every detail of the company's business and with the officers and employees. What is quite as important he is familiar with the people and the industries of the valley, and the people know him. These factors will contribute to increase popular confidence in the traction company under his direction and make for the success of the new executive.

## DISGUSTING.

DURING the past few days The West Virginian has been deluged with communications, by telephone and in other ways, regarding the disgusting street displays which were conducted as an advertisement for a so called amusement enterprise which is being produced at the Hippodrome theatre. All these spectacles have been extremely repulsive to many people and in some of them there was more than a suggestion that they either were brutally cruel or brazenly fraudulent.

In either event they should have been stopped. This

newspaper appealed to both the local manager of the theatre and the city authorities, and met with complete failure in both instances. The manager of the theatre, content with the fact that he is filling his house this week, and utterly disregarding the possibility that in the long run he was doing the place a great deal of harm, simply refused to do anything. The city authorities declined because they said they could not find any law upon which to act. They might have stopped the affair in a half dozen different ways if they had wanted to.

No one was surprised over the way the city government acted. We are used to that, but the action of the house manager was past comprehension. If that is the way he feels about the finer sensibilities of the people of this city it will not be long before his place is shunned as it used to be shunned. No theatre can hope to continue to enjoy prosperity which adopts a policy of driving away the best element in the community.

## PAYING THE WAR BILL.

MUCH of the gossip that is sent to London and to the newspapers of the United States regarding what is going on among the peace conferees is mere conjecture, and it is so recognized by practically all readers. Nevertheless the report of yesterday to the effect that the Germans are not to be required to foot the war bill is apt to strike a discordant note in this country.

The ardent friends of France who remember the treatment that country got at the end of the Franco-Prussian war are especially apt to complain, but a much more important protest will come from thoughtful people who realize that it will be positively dangerous to the peace of the world to let Germany get out of this war without paying a heavy penalty for the crimes of the German government and army. The lesson must be taught that the nation which wantonly starts war must pay and pay dearly. Thoughtful people do not want a humiliating peace thrust upon the Germans, but they do want them, and the rest of the nations of the world, taught that the nation which breaks the peace is going to be held to strict accountability.

This thought probably is not missing from the deliberations of the delegates to the peace congress, and if they do let Germany off without paying the whole cost of the war it probably will be because the bill for the incidental destruction of property will be so staggering that it will keep the German people with their noses to the grindstone for a long time. If the money penalty is large enough to make the Germans realize that their long cherished theory that war is a profitable business is one of history's colossal mistakes no one will be disposed to quarrel over the details.

## A VETERAN RETIRES.

S. L. WATSON'S retirement yesterday from the post of chairman of the board of directors of the Monongahela Valley Traction company marked the passing clear out of active participation in the affairs of the corporation of one who began at the beginning and served in the ranks in the days when the company simply had to fight its way through.

The ways of those days would not do now, but they served admirably then, and the many people who depend upon the M. V. T. for service of various kinds have to thank him for the foresight and grit which won for the property the important place it now occupies in the life of the busy upper Monongahela valley.

His successor in the post of chairman of the board, J. O. Watson, has served as president of the company for the past three years, after having been connected with it in other capacities. Under J. O. Watson the company witnessed splendid growth, especially along the line of furnishing electric service. This made it necessary to build the great power plant at Riversville which is now nearing completion and undertake other important improvements.

Senator Hough, of Wellsburg, yesterday introduced at Charleston a bill providing for the creation of a force of state police modeled in all essential particulars after the state police force of Pennsylvania. This bill doubtless will meet with a great deal of opposition, especially upon the part of organized labor. State police forces are one of the pet aversions of professional labor leaders, but the fact remains that the Pennsylvania state police constitute one of the finest, most efficient and least objectionable police force in the world and it has justified itself every day since it took the field. If West Virginia had a state police force of the same type and sufficiently large, workmen would be protected from the so called corporation gunmen, hard drinking and graft taking constables and deputy sheriffs would have to go out of business and life would be much more pleasant and safe for women and little children in mining and lumber camps. We do not know what chances this Hough bill has, but it ought to become a law.

Charles F. Ice, who today relinquishes the post of chief inspector of the Fairmont producing district in conformity with the Fuel administration's program of relieving the bituminous mining industry of government control, was one of the important factors in making the district office of the Fuel administration located here a pronounced success. He took hold at a time when dirty coal was becoming a national scandal and in a short time without having to resort to drastic measures or reduce the output of coal he cleaned up for this district. It was a fine exhibition of what the know how can accomplish in a difficult and delicate situation.

Major Henry Leonard told the members of the New York State Breeder's association yesterday that the American cavalry remount had been a failure in Europe. We do not know how much or how little Major Henry Leonard knows about this little matter, but we do know that the American cavalry remount was better than nothing, and probably was the equal of any horse found anywhere in the world at that. According to German General Staff specifications the American doughboy was a failure, but he got there all the same.

## RUFF STUFF

The Turkish cabinet has resigned.

It's just as well. Turkey is too poor to pay the salaries and she does not seem to have any use for a cabinet, anyhow.

Queer things happen in this world.

British Tories and American progressives are both jumping on Wilson's scheme for internationalizing the German colonies.

According to the law of averages the ought to make Woodrow about right.

One of the troop ships bearing West Virginia boys which arrived yesterday also had on board the first of the crop of war brides—young women married on the other side by American soldiers.

There certainly ought to be a committee at the dock to look these ladies over and report in detail.

There'll be a lot of curiosity back here in the hills until we know whether any of these European charmers are headed this way or not.

One house of the state legislature voted almost a whole day yesterday to consideration of the dog bills.

There ought to be a constitutional bar against dog bills.

Believe it all the hours that have been wasted in all the legislatures in the consideration of dog bills had been devoted to useful purposes the millennium would have been moved forward several centuries.

And how seriously the dog bill statesman takes his chosen role.

If an equal amount of deep thought were put into the problem of growing enough food in West Virginia to make the state self-sustaining that there would happen this year.

## TODAY IN STATE HISTORY

The legislature of Virginia officially established the county of "Kanawha" in 1789 and the town of "Charleston" in 1794. Both names were changed later by common consent, the first to "Kanawha" and the second to "Charleston," leaving out the "w." Just what led to the change none of the early historians have written down. Hale's "Trans-Allegheny Pioneers" on page 239 comments upon this curious fact in an interesting way.

In suffrage circles plans are already under consideration for a suitable observance next year of the centennial of the birth of Susan B. Anthony, the famous pioneer of the woman's rights movement in America.

The Victory Shoe Sale will continue for 15 days only. Shurtleff & Welton's. Adv.

## HIGH ALL SET FOR HUNTINGTON GAME

Contest Here Friday Night Expected to Be Very Interesting.

The High school basketball team held final practice last night in preparation for the game with Huntington Friday night. The new style of passing and shooting which Coach Kahn showed the team Monday is working out well the team having it down perfect. Fairmont had been getting careless about its shooting but the coach has been making the team practice up on the shots until every player is practically a sure shot when any ways near the basket.

Huntington has one of the best teams in the state this year, but as Fairmont has not heard much about it except that they have an unusually fast team Fairmont expects to outclass them altogether in this respect as the team is getting faster every practice it has.

Fairmont is in the best of condition for the fray and considering the close score to which they held the Buckhannon team last week they are expecting a record crowd out to witness a local victory as the expense for bringing the Huntington team here is unusually large. A good game is assured to the local followers of the game.

## DIED IN BALTIMORE.

Mrs. Margaret Farnan, widow of Marshal T. F. Farnan, died on Tuesday of this week at her home in Baltimore. Funeral services were held on Thursday. Mrs. Farnan was the mother of Mrs. R. Bruce Parrish, formerly of this city and was a frequent guest while her daughter resided here.

It is believed the coming census will show fully five times as many women as men school teachers in the United States.

## "VICTORY" Shoe Sale



Starting Tomorrow  
OUR GREATEST  
Mid-Winter Clearance

This year we have appropriately named it our "Victory" Shoe Sale. There are times of "Reconstruction" for the merchant, as well as for the nation. Shoes have to be reduced to peace-time levels. Many War Time Styles have to be eliminated.

So we start one of our smashing rousing Clearance sales tomorrow—those who call here while the savings are best—will surely about "VICTORY".

## Savings from 20% to 50%—Continuing 15 Days WOMEN'S SHOES

At \$1.80 Black Shoes in kid and patent leather—button—high and low heels—a good run of sizes. Shoes in this lot sold up to \$3.50.

At \$2.80 All sizes here in several styles together—black shoes—wonderful bargains. Former prices up to \$4.50.

At \$3.80 Tan—Black and grey styles in lace—also black button shoes—a great variety heels and toes—all sizes in the lot. Values up to \$6.00.

At \$4.80 Some of the seasons best styles in Novelty boots—grey, brown, and lighter colored kids also black. Leather and covered heels. Former prices up to \$9.00.

## MEN'S SHOES

At \$2.40 Men's Work shoes medium and heavy weight—also odd lots of dress shoes—a good run of sizes. Former prices up to \$4.00.

At \$3.40 This lot contains a great variety of styles—button and lace also shoes made on the army last—leathers that will stand hard knocks. Values up to \$5.50.



At \$4.40 Hundreds of pairs in most every wanted style—tan and black—English and wide toes—shoes for dress and work. Former prices up to \$7.00.

At \$5.40 Your choice of some of our best shoes—Walk-Over's—Hanau's and other makes. A great lot to select from—mahogany—tan—black—all sizes. Shoes that sold up to \$11.

## BOY'S AND GIRL'S SHOES

Every broken line of boys and girls shoes have been placed in two lots—lace and button styles—black and tan—heavy and light weight. Buy now to finish up the school year.

At \$1.80 Boys and girls shoes. Sizes up to 11. Black kid and calf. Former prices up to \$3.00.

At \$2.80 Boys and girls shoes—All sizes for children up to the big girls and boys. Former prices up to \$4.00.

To appreciate these Shoe Bargains you must see them—don't delay—come early and save from 1-5 to 1-2 on your purchase.

# SHURTLEFF & WELTON'S

## WALK OVER BOOT SHOP